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May 10, 2013

LYNN T. THOMAS, FRP
PARALEGAL
ELIZABETH A. RICHMOND, FRP
PARALEGAL

VIA EMAIL

TCPalm
1939 S. Federal Highway
Post Office Box 9009
Stuart, Florida 34994

Dear Mr. Andreassi,

This office represents Senator Ken Pruitt. I am writing, not to engage in polemics regarding the month long diatribe in which your paper has been involved regarding Senator Pruitt's service as property appraiser -- your demonstrated bias and the liberty which you take with facts suggests that would be a fruitless endeavor. Rather, the purpose of this correspondence is to put you on notice that your use of terms such as "conflict of interest" have legal significance and if you continue to publish materials asserting that Senator Pruitt has engaged in improper conduct or has a "conflict of interest" arising from his serving as property appraiser and also a business owner/consultant, you will be publishing untruthful and defamatory material for which you will be held responsible in damages.

Contrary to the narrative which you are attempting to establish, careful legal analysis and consideration was given to the ability of Senator Pruitt to serve as the full time property appraiser while engaging in other part time business interests. While it may be fair game to engage in a policy debate regarding whether restrictions should be imposed upon constitutional officers regarding outside employment, you are not free to suggest that Senator Pruitt is engaged in an activity which is improper or poses a legal conflict of interest.

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELVES ACCORDINGLY.

Sincerely yours,



Ronald G. Meyer

RGM/ltt